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STAT

CIA Head Approved Use Of Journalists 3 Times

CIA Director Stansfield Turner has approved the use of journalists in secret operations three times, but they were never pressed into duty, the Senate Intelligence Committee was told yesterday.

Elaborating on testimony by Turner last week, CIA Deputy Director Frank Carlucci said the intelligence operations were "never carried out" for various reasons. He said one of the projects "became impossible" to carry out and another became unnecessary.

Carlucci did not cite any reasons for abandoning the third plan but he emphasized "there was no use of journalists" in any of the cases.

CIA regulations issued in 1977 prohibit the use of fulltime or parttime journalists accredited to U.S. publications, broadcasting outlets or wire services—unless the CIA director decides to make an exception.

Members of the Intelligence Committee had been unaware that any waivers had been granted until Turner said last week that he had approved them "on very limited occasions."